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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

20 September 1974

Lieutenant General Daniel O. Graham, USA Director Defense Intelligence Agency

Dear Daniel:

Per our 18 September telephone conversation, all of us here agree with and support your views on the wisdom of preparing a U.S.-only assessment of the points to be covered in next year's MC 161. This assessment should be based strictly on a U.S. perception of what the facts are and what they suggest, an analysis not distorted

If properly done, such a U.S. assessment could guide or even drive the actual U.S. submissions to NATO.

At this writing, I have mixed feelings about the best label for this paper. It ought to be a Community product endorsed by the USIB. So long as that end is achieved, I have no strong views on whether it be termed an Interagency Memorandum, an NIE, a NIAM, or something else. We could, indeed, call it NIE 11-14-74 and then plan to have another 11-14 -- perhaps somewhat different in scope or focus -done late next spring or early summer.

I appreciate your volunteering DIA's talent to do the bulk of the work and your efficiency in having much of that work already under way. On major national products done by the whole Community, both the DCI and I think it would be a sound practice to move in the direction or separating responsibilities of drafting and those of chairing such endeavors. Thus, I would suggest that this paper be largely written in DIA but that the chairman for the project come directly from the office of the NIO for Conventional Forces. are both fully deployed Since1 in the preparation of the Soviet Navy Estimate (11-15), what I would like to do -- if this is agreeable to you -is have seconded to Dan's office for this explicit purpose, functioning in this exercise as part of is have the NIO structure and not as a line manager in OSR.

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Enclosed is a rough prospectus of how we think such a Community paper might look, i.e., the points we feel it should address in one way or another. There is nothing about this list that is either definitive or preclusive. I suspect you and your colleagues would already be planning to cover virtually all of these points and you may well have some other points you feel need to be covered which have not occurred to us. (Incidentally, we gave little attention to naval forces since these will be thoroughly covered in the work concurrently being done on NIE 11-15-74.)

If the above line of march seems satisfactory to you, I would suggest that Rae get in touch with you and your associates who are already at work and that we shoot for the November completion date suggested in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

George A. Carver, Jr.

Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

Enclosure

cc: DCI DDCI DDI D/OSR

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Original - Addressee (by hand, Sat., 21 Sep 74)

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Remarks:

The attached was prepared in consultation with Mr. Knoche who approved the text prior to its dispatch.

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Attached is a letter I have just received from our former colleague Danny Graham (which, somehow, took four days to travel from his office to mine). This pitch -- which would have the net effect of DIA's taking over 11-14 perplexes me somewhat. I want to raise it at the Morning Meeting tomorrow (18 September) and would appreciate it if we could discuss it at about 0845 tomorrow.

George A. Carver, Jr. D/DCI/NIO

Attachment